

Data George Mortimer West Biography.

First appearance in Public Directory was in "Poor's Directory of Railway Officials", published ~~in~~ in 1887. That was the second annual number of the first publication of Railway Officials. Have never seen the First Annual. In this directory on page 151, Officials of the C. & N. W. R. R. is to be found the following: Peninsula Division- 425 miles. W. B. Linsley, Superintendent; George M. West, Assistant Superintendent; J. Symons, Master Mechanic.

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From "Biographical Directory of Railway Officials of America," 1906 issue, the following is taken: "West, George M., General Superintendent Chicago Heights Terminal Transfer Rd. Office Chicago Heights, Ill. Born Nov. 28th, 1845. Entered railway service 1859, since which he has been consecutively to 1861, helper in warehouse and clerk, Milwaukee & Horicon Ry.; operator and agent Chicago, Milwaukee & St Paul Ry., 1869 to ~~1872~~ publishing newspapers and practising law; 1872, operator Chicago & Northwestern Ry at Ishpeming, Mich.; August 1872 to 1886 train dispatcher and chief train dispatcher at Escanaba; 1886 to 1900 assistant superintendent Peninsula division same road at Escanaba, Mich.; 1900 to 1902, superintendent Chicago Heights Terminal Transfer Rd.; 1902 to date, (1906) general superintendent same road.

From the "Who's Who in Finance and Banking", issue of 1922 we take the following: "West George Mortimer, Panama City, Fla. Publisher, editor, promoter; born Oneida county, N. Y., Nov 28th, 1845; son Philander B. and Fidelia (Mason) West; educated in common schools New York and Wisconsin; married, first, Adella M. Showers(d); second Luella V. Simmens(d); third, Lillian Earlike; one son; Charles E. by first wife. Began railway work at age of fifteen; was with Milwaukee & Horicon Railroad and its successor, Chicago, Milwaukee & St Paul Railroad, 1860 to 1870; also established and published Brandon, (Wis) Times; published Ripon Free-Press 1870-72, admitted

to bar 1871; . Entered service of Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, 1872;  
Upper Michigan; train dispatcher; became assistant superintendent until  
1900, then took superintendcy of Chicago Heights Terminal Transfer Railroad  
Chicago Heights, Ill ; remained as superintendent and general superintendent  
until 1906; removed to Panama City, Fla., purchased old town sites and  
founded town of Panama City; secured railroad connection and promoted the  
building of the town. Vice-president and General Manager of Gulf Coast Develop-  
ment Company, owners of town site; active in securing appropriation for  
improvement of St Andrews Bay harbor, 1909-10, and also first link in  
intercoastal canal; founder and editor of Panama City Pilot since 1906,  
and St Andrews Bay News since 1916. Has written various articles and papers  
on wild flowers of great north woods, camping in Florida, genealogy of  
General West, Rhode Island; railway management; State control of railways;  
History of St Andrews. Member Sons of American Revolution; Old Time Tele-  
graphers' Association. Recreation : A study of the Flora , Fauna and Geology  
of West Florida . Independent in politics. Methodist."

1922 to 1926.

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Data. The Lady Elgin was sunk on the morning of Sept 8th, 1860. I was  
acting operator at Waupun, Wis., at that time.

The Milwaukee & Horicon R. R. was finished to Brandon, Wis., Oct  
15th, 1856. When mother and us children came to Brandon, the rails were  
just laid to the station. Grading was being done 500 feet north of  
the station.